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LOCAL NOTICES.

Grand Masquerade.

(By request of nearly two hundred ladies and gentlemen) at the Rink, Thursday evening. No gentlemen allowed to appear in ladies' costume. Admission to spectators as usual. Costume tickets can be obtained (by the regular patrons of the Rink only) at any time before five o'clock Thursday afternoon, from R. G. Hervey, General Manager.

Tournament at Central Park.

This afternoon a splendid pair of Skates will be awarded to the best skater. To-morrow the best Toodles on ice will receive a pair, and on each afternoon this week prizes will be awarded, weather permitting.

Pomades,

Colognes and the extracts sold at Fleming's Drug Store, No. 84 Market street. Remember the place.

For Pure Medicinal Liquors

Go to McClarran & McKennan's Drug Store.

Trunks, Trunks,

At John Bell's No. 35 Market street, three doors from Second street.

For Patent Medicines

The cheapest place in the city is at McClarran & McKennan's Drug Store, 55 Market street, corner Diamond near Fifth.

Skating Tournament

Commences at the Rink this afternoon. Ladies and gentlemen wishing to enter for the total contests will please do so before two o'clock. The $200 Gold and Diamond Championship Medal, can be seen at the Rink this afternoon.

Grand Masquerade

And Fancy Dress Carnival at the Rink, Thursday evening, February 6th. Costume tickets must be procured at the Rink before the night of the Masquerade.

Turner's Neuralgia Pill.

McClarran & McKennan, 85 Market street, agents.

Leaf Tobacco.

Havana, Yara, Connecticut, New York State, at New York prices, branch of Julian Allen 172 Water street, New York. Daniel F. Dinan, 75 Water street, Pittsburgh.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Two several bills are now pending before your honorable bodies, each of which has for its object the incorporation of a Passenger Railway Company, the route of which, in the long Liberty street, in the City of Pittsburgh, when the undersigned citizens of said city, do hereby respectfully remonstrate against the passage of the same, for the following reasons, viz:

First. Liberty street is now the only street leading eastwardly out of the city of Pittsburgh, and is already obstructed by passenger railways, and it is very desirable, as well generally for the interests of the business community and those travelling in their own conveyances that there be at least one unobstructed thoroughfare leading eastwardly out of said city.

Second. Liberty street is not now sufficiently unobstructed, one side of the same being already occupied by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and any further occupancy of the street by a passenger railway would be greatly detrimental to the interests of the public.

Third. No necessity exists for a passenger railway along either of the proposed routes, inasmuch as the demand for a public conveyance along such routes is fully supplied by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Fourth. The Council of the City of Pittsburgh, by a resolution passed March 28th, 1864, instructed their Senators and Representatives at Harrisburg to oppose the passage of any bill giving the right to lay a passenger railway track upon Liberty street, and your remonstrants believe that the same objections exist to laying such track now as existed at the date of the passage of said resolution.

J. S. Liggett & Co., Wm. McCully & Co., Van Gunder & Sheppard, J. Hammett & Son, D. Chesrow & Co., James Connor, Alexander Taylor, Gideon McHenry, Kell & Bitchart, W. J. McCord, Culp & Sheppard, Alexander Morrison, J. G. McFarlane, Springer Harbaugh, Hugh Knox, John Scott, Bollman, Perry & Co., Schlemeyer & Voskamp, Harris & Ewing, William McKee & Co., S. H. Watson & Co., James Nelson, Martin Heyl, Sam'l Eichbaum & Co., William Carr & Co., John C. Scott, John Bissell, W. W. Wallace, James Marbourg, James H. Parker, James McKay, Scott & Gi-al, Joshua Rhodes & Co., John Scott, Jr., J. & W. Fairley, Thomas Wilson, Alexander Moore, John Bell & Son, J. Adler & Co., A. Roedelheim, W. S. Selig, James Russell, M. A. Sarsi, E. Ewart & Co., Thomas Mitchell, Carter, Mefrew & Co., O. M. Shaw, John Davis, James Ralston, James Roney, Head & Metzger, Shields, Herron & Co., Wm. Smith, Bloomah & Wolf, J. McM King, W. S. Mellon, Thomas Mitchell, W. Mackeown & Bros., F. H. Schmidt, James Bryar, R. J. Gerwig, John Hall & Co., W. H. Graff, S. Meyer, S. Peterson, Jr., & Co., Kirkpatrick, Bros & Co., G. W. Munninger, Moody, Dinn & Co., Charles C. Bailey, E. H. Aiken & Co., Graff & Bitter, A. Batton, Jr., A. S. Gettig, J. C. Lange, C. Van Gunden, H. Stoveberner, John Caldwell, Charles Roth, Peter Roth, Robert B. Black, John Selbert, B. A. Burdick, G. Weyser, Henry Hilmer, F. Ritchey, John Horn, Daniel Wallace, McHenry & Hood, R. H. Boyd & Son, M. F. Herron, Gay & Weih, Moreland & Mitchell, Watt & Wilson, Henry D. Rutton, D. Burton, T. C. Hawkins, B. D. Marker, E. K. Lanahan, T. W. Loughrey, David M. Watt, W. Kirkpatrick, Pitcairn & Smith, Thomas Bakewell, Archibald Austin, Thomas Marcy Francis Adams, Minister to England. Referred.

Mr. WILSON presented the petition of members of the Peace Society praying the appointment of Commissioners to Alaska to examine into the condition of the Indians.

Mr. POMEROY presented the memorial and resolutions of the Legislature of Kansas in regard to opening public lands, formerly Indian reservations, to settlement. Referred.

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The morning hour having expired, the Chair announced the debate on reconstruction in order and Mr. Ferry entitled to the floor.

Mr. JOHNSON said he would not ask a vote in the Senator Thomas case until the reconstruction debate was concluded.

Mr. FERRY spoke at some length in favor of the reconstruction bill.

Mr. STEWART followed on the same side, when the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATATIVES.

Bills and resolutions were introduced as follows: To amend the law relative to promotion in the navy.

Relative to taxing national banks.

For the enforcement of contracts payable in coin.

To authorize the building of a military and postal railroad from Washington to New York.

Relative to Naturalization laws. [The latter provides that any man may become a citizen on application to any law court on taking the usual oath.]

Also, to authorize the issue of $140,000,000 in legal tenders to supply the deficiency caused by cancellation of legal tender and compound interest notes.

To repeal the act concerning registering ships.

To provide for the orphans of soldiers and sailors who died in service, and an asylum for disabled veterans.

Relative to grants for a railroad in Minnesota.

For the relief of the Winnebago Indians.

Making grants of land to aid in a railroad from Fort Scott to Santa Fe.

To provide for the settlement of the War debt incurred in New Mexico in aid of the suppression of the rebellion and Indian hostilities.

For building wagon roads in Dakota.

To increase the compensation of registers and receivers of public lands in Idaho.

In reference to the pay and bounty of soldiers enlisting for a specified term of service and honorably discharged before the expiration of that term.

Amendatory of the act of July 6, 1866, relative to bridging the Mississippi river.

For the removal of the national capital to St. Louis.

In relation to the claims of colored soldiers.

Making appropriation for improving the harbors in Michigan.

To regulate charges of express companies.

In relation to taxation of United States notes, national currency, &c., for State and municipal purposes.

To establish a Department of Justice. The bill provides for a secretary to be head of the law department, for an attorney general, a solicitor general, and an assistant for each. It abolishes the office of solicitors to departments, and forbids the employment of special counsels by heads of departments, except where the whole force of the law department is in efficient service. The solicitor of the Court of Claims is also placed within the department.

Also concerning American citizenship and the protection due to American citizens in foreign States. The bill is intended as a substitute for that now before the House. It declares the rights of expatriation and naturalization as part of the public law of the United States, and requires the Executive Department to afford such protection as may be within its power to all American citizens transacting lawful business in all parts of the world, and to report at once to Congress any case where such may be interfered with or denied in any foreign country, in order that the Government may intervene with effect. It also provides that American citizenship may be lost by naturalization in any foreign country, by taking service under a foreign government, or leaving the country without the intent to return. It excepts from the protection of the Government persons who expatriate themselves; who commit crimes in foreign countries; who have been abroad five years without paying taxes annually in the United States; who enter into the service of any belligerent contrary to the neutrality laws; who return to their native countries with the intent to resume domicile there; who shall be sent from actual service in the army or navy in a foreign State, or have emigrated to avoid a conscription actually ordered.

The memorial and joint resolution of the Michigan Legislature concerning improvement of the harbor of Manitowoc, and concerning the rights of naturalized citizens in foreign countries, were referred.

Mr. HUBBARD, of West Virginia, offered a resolution directing the Secretary of War to transmit copies of all correspondence between him and the Executive, limiting his authority as Secretary of War to issue orders; all correspondence between him and the General-in-Chief on the same subject, and all correspondence that may have been furnished him between the President and General-in-Chief relating to the disobeying by the General, of any orders of the War Department. Adopted.

Mr. CLEAVES offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether additional legislation is necessary to eradicate the system of peonage and Indian slavery in New Mexico. Adopted.

The House proceeded to dispose of resolutions heretofore offered, as follows:

The resolution of Mr. BROOKS, of New York, calling on the Secretary of War for copies of all general orders promulgated by the several Commanders of the five Military Districts, or pentarchies, at the South.

Mr. BLAINE remarked that the resolution was not respectful in its terms, and moved to lay it on the table.

Mr. BROOKS asked for the yeas and nayson that motion.

Mr. BLAINE said he had no objections to the resolution, if the offensive expression about pentarchies was omitted.

Mr. BROOKS admitted that pentarchies was rather a hard word, and would strike it out.

Mr. ELDRIDGE wanted to know how the word was any worse than the fact.

Mr. BLAINE withdrew his motion, and the resolution of Mr. Brooks, being modified, was adopted.

Mr. PILE'S resolution, offered December 16th, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report whether since July last, any National Banks have changed their securities held in the Treasury to secure circulation or the Government deposits, and requiring him to make no further changes in the funded securities by payment or otherwise, except of interest, until further legislation or order of Congress.

Mr. BUTLER spoke in support and explanation of the resolution, charging the Secretary of the Treasury with increasing the expenses of the Government by permitting a change of seven-thirties, currency interest, into six per cent. gold interest bearing bonds.

Mr. BLAINE remarked that the 7-30 notes bore on their face the stipulation that they were exchangeable for 5-20's, and said the gentlemen from Missouri and Massachusetts were proposing to put through under the the thumbscrew of the previous question in two minutes and a half a negative in the contract. That was the whole intent of the resolution.

After further debate, the resolution, at the expiration of the morning hour, went over.

The House resumed consideration of the Kentucky contested election case. Mr. KERR speaking in favor of Brown's right to a seat. Mr Kerr, in defending Brown from any criminality in connection with the letter written by him to the Louisville *Courier*, and which is the basis of the charges against him, said he never foolish and unadvised that letter was, it had not been followed by any act of criminality. He had heard many equally foolish statements made, even by members of the House, some of them going so far as to declare that if the President of the United States did not do certain things, he would find his Brutus.

Mr. PRICE asked whether he had made that statement in reference to Andrew Johnson finding his Brutus.

Mr. KERR stated he had.

Mr. PRICE declared the thing was entirely new to him. Being a part and parcel of the House, he wished to deny that any member, on his side of the House at least, had ever given utterance to such a sentiment, and if he was mistaken he challenged the gentleman from Indiana to give names.

Mr. KERR said the gentleman knew very well it was impossible to carry in one's memory all names and speeches. He had made the assertion from memory, and he would not re-assert it, notwithstanding the gentleman's memory was inconsistent with his own. He did not undertake to give the precise words uttered, but simply to give the idea.

Mr. PRICE declared as emphatically and as positively as he could express himself, that no man on his side of the House had, during this or any other session of Congress, in the House or out of the House, made use of any such expression, and he wished to say to the country that the Republican party in the United States did not think enough of Andrew Johnson or so little of itself as to descend to a point where, under any circumstances, it would furnish him with a "Brutus." (Laughter.)

Mr. KERR remarked, disclaiming any personal allusion, that it had been said outside of the House by a very distinguished member of the House that the time might come when the President would find himself, after the convening of Congress, suspended between heaven and earth.

Mr. WELKER inquired whether Mr. Kerr referred to a statement published as having been made by the Speaker.

Mr. KERR said he did not.

Mr. WELLER said—If so, he begged leave to say—

Mr. KERR, interrupting, said he had answered the gentleman's question.

Mr. WELKER desired in justice to the gentleman who had the honor of presiding over the House, to correct a statement which he had seen frequently published in Democratic papers throughout the country, in reference to the remarks made by the Speaker of the House in his [Welker's] town of Wooster, Ohio, where the Speaker was represented as having used words in reference to President Johnson, similar to those uttered by the gentleman from Indiana. Mr. Kerr. He [Welker] was present on that occasion, and heard the speech. It contained no such declaration. The Speaker had been alluding to the sentiment, now very general, that the President of the United States would prevent the Fortieth Congress from assembling in pursuance of its adjournment, and he remarked in that connection that while he did not himself believe that any such thing would be attempted or any other official person did overthrow and depose the law-making power of the nation by force, by preventing the representatives of the people from assembling to discharge their duties, he would find himself in the condition, after being tried and convicted of treason against the Government, of being suspended as a punishment for so wicked a crime. No remark that could be construed into a threat against the President was made by the Speaker on that occasion. The version of the speech published in the Democratic papers was an infamous falsehood.

Mr. KERR remarked that it was not necessary for him to repeat his disclaimer.

On motion of Mr. TRIMBLE, the further consideration of the Kentucky case was postponed until the 11th of February, in order that Mr. Brown might have an opportunity of addressing the House.

The SPEAKER presented communications as follows: From the Secretary of the Treasury, the necessity of further appropriations towards defraying the expenses of employing copying clerks to enable the department to answer certain calls for information.

From the same, with a statement of disbursements from the contingent fund.

From the Secretary of the Treasury, relative to special agents and detectives employed in the Treasury Department since June first, 1866.

From the same, relative to the discrimination of the champagne suits in New York. All appropriately referred.

Mr. ROBINSON asked leave to offer a resolution reciting at considerable length the facts and allegations in the case of Stephen J. Meany, John Warren, W. J. Naglee, and other American citizens arrested and imprisoned in Ireland, and requesting the President of the United States to institute an immediate examination into the facts recited in the preamble, and, if found true, to demand the immediate release of such American citizens as have been convicted for words or deeds spoken or done in the United States; to demand the immediate new trial or liberty for any American citizens denied his challenge to the array of the jury on the ground of perpetual allegiance; to demand the immediate release of W. J. Naglie, and, if the demand was not complied with, to order the arrest and detention in custody of any subjects of Great Britain who may be found within the jurisdiction of the United States, and withdraw all intercourse of the United States with Great Britain.

The SPEAKER asked whether there was an objection to the resolution being offered.

Mr. BINGHAM said he should object unless the gentleman from New York changed the language of the resolution in some respects. In the first place, the resolution authorized the detention of any British subject—a direct violation of the laws of nations. The gentleman should know that the persons of Ambassadors were, by the universal judgment of mankind, under the protection of the laws, and that no national exigency would justify the violation of the protection of their persons.

The SPEAKER said he understood that as an objection to the resolution, although it was at some length. [Laughter.]

Mr. BINGHAM said he would object unless the resolution was modified.

Mr. ROBINSON professed himself ready to modify in any way to suit the sentiments of the House, which he knew to be sound. He was not particular about the language. He was willing to exclude Ministers, Consuls, Ambassadors, &c. He subsequently permitted Mr. PRUYN to modify it by striking out the clause authorizing reprisals, and substituting for it a direction to the President to report the facts to Congress without delay.

Mr. BANKS remarked that there was no official information on which the resolution could be predicated or justified. He was informed the State Department that the papers in these cases were voluminous, and that they would be prepared for the use of the House with the utmost expedition. He thought it best for all interested that no action should be taken till the papers were received.

Mr. ROBINSON said the reason he asked for this action was, that something should be done for those who, without any crime, were lingering and rotting in British dungeons. He wanted to have the British Lion taught that the time was past when it could trample upon American citizens. He wanted to have the President, Secretary of State and the American people aroused from their lethargy on that subject. The members of the House would be unworthy of being American citizens, if they slept one night while their flag was being lowered and while the bird which should soar was in the gutter beneath the ignoble foot that tramples on it.

After further discussion, objection being made to the offering of the resolution, Mr. ROBINSON moved to suspend the rules. They were suspended—yeas 99, nays 30—and the resolution introduced.

Mr. BINGHAM said this was a question which touched the peace of nations, and it should be referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, with leave to report at any time. It struck him the resolution, on its face, put the issues of peace and war in the hands of the President. The House could not transfer that power to any one. It was written in the resolution that the President should demand, unconditionally, the immediate release of certain persons. Every one knows it was the right of every sovereignty to hold every man, of whatever nation or allegiance, to answer before its tribunals of justice for violation of its own laws within its own jurisdiction. He was willing to vindicate the sovereignty of the American people, but he was not willing the President should be invested with that general power of demanding the immediate and unconditional release of American citizens charged with crime. There was no member, not even the member who introduced the resolution, who could say on his oath as a representative of the people, that the persons named in the resolution were not held to answer for crimes committed within the jurisdiction of England. If they were so held they must continue to be so held. He trusted the gentleman [Robinson] would see the importance of referring the question to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. It was a matter which touched the peace of the republic, and, which was more important, the honor of the Commonwealth. Were they going to set up the miserable precedent that a subject of England or France, or any other power, could commit crimes with impunity within the jurisdiction of the United States? For himself, he claimed that whoever, from any quarter of the world, violated American laws within its jurisdiction, should be held to answer for it before an American tribunal of justice, and what he claimed for the United States he conceded to all other nations.

Mr ROBINSON said in reply to one of Mr. Bingham's remarks, that some of the persons referred to in his resolution were held for words spoken and deeds done in the United States, and referred to the statement by Baron Fitzgerald, on the trial of Stephen J. Meany, that that was so, and there were enough men there, meaning in Ireland, to delay until eternity's bell rung the vindication of the rights of American citizens.

Mr. BINGHAM reminded Mr. Robinson that without an authenticated copy of the record, the House could not know what the Judge said on that trial.

Mr. ROBINSON held that the statement having appeared in the Dublin *Irishman*, and never having been contradicted, was to be taken as true, and asked how long were American citizens, over a hundred in number and equal in intelligence to the men surrounding him, to be kept within the grasp of the British Lion?

After animated discussion in the same strain by Messrs. Robinson, Bingham, Higbee, Eldridge, and Banks, the latter taking the ground that the passage of the resolution would be the evasion by the House of its own duties, and shifting the responsibility on the President. Mr. ROBINSON moved the previous question. The House refused to second the previous question, and on motion of Mr. BANKS, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, by a vote of yeas 89, nays 27.

Adjourned.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Eighteen prisoners escaped from jail at St. Joseph, Mo., on Saturday. During the melee Horace Fish, brother of Sheriff Fish, was shot and killed, and one prisoner was severely wounded.

Jeremiah Williams, of Oakham, Massachusetts, committed suicide Sunday by hanging himself in the cellar of his house.

Robert D. Briggs, one of the wealthiest farmers of Auburn, Me., committed suicide by hanging himself on Sunday evening.

The palace car City of Chicago, running on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, took fire about twelve o'clock on Saturday night, from the explosion of a kerosene lamp, and was totally destroyed. The passengers escaped without injury.

The representatives of the tobacco trade at their recent convention in Washington, adopted a series of resolutions, amendatory to the present Internal Revenue law, for the consideration of the Ways and Means Committee. They ask that the tax upon every grade and description of chewing tobacco and snuff, be fixed at sixteen cents per pound, instead of forty cents, which is the present rate, and upon all smoking tobacco (cigars excepted) at eight cents per pound instead of the present tax, which is sixteen cents per pound. They also adopted a resolution providing that all frauds committed upon the Internal Revenue Department, either by officials or any other persons, be punished with imprisonment and fine, and counterfeiting of stamps to be regarded in law as an offense against the Government money, and be similarly punished.

The organ recently removed from St. Stephen's church in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to give place to a larger instrument, was for one hundred and fifty years in St. Thomas'achapel, Salisbury, England, and was brought over the ocean in 1792, for Trinity church, Boston. It was removed to the new Trinity church in 1825, in 1836 was sold to the Episcopal church in Quincy, and in 1851 presented to the Pittsfield church by Miss Lucretia Newton. Tradition says that Handel fingered its keys in its early days.

In the Virginia Convention yesterday, three sections of the ordinance on the Executive Department were adopted. The Governor is to serve four years, and not to be eligible for the succeeding term. He shall be thirty years old, a citizen of the United States for twenty years, and a citizen of Virginia five years.

The Captain and two sailors of the crew of the schooner Moses Warring, which foundered at sea, were rescued on the 18th ult., by the bark Minnie Gordon, and taken to Gibralter. They had been seven days without food, and to sustain life were obliged to resort to the flesh of the mate, who died from exhaustion. When picked up the men were hardly able to move or speak, but are now recovering.

Ristori, at her first appearance in Havana, had an immense audience, and was called out five times.

Counterfeit tens on the National Market Bank of New York, are in circulation in Boston.

BY MAILS.

It appears from statistics kept in France that during the last thirty years more than ten thousand people were struck by lightning, of whom two thousand two hundred and thirty-two were killed outright. Eight hundred and eighty were killed during the last ten years, and of these only two hundred and forty-three were females.

The London *Spectator*, in a recent article on cats, says that the cat of the ancients never had any rat devouring to do, for the rat is a mediæval animal, first noticed in English literature in Pier's Plowman. Linnæus even fancied that the elder of the two rats, the black rat, had been imported from America, though that was a blunder, as the black rat made his appearance in England and Scotland.

In a trial in Scotland in relation to the loss of a steamship the question turned on the condition of the master at the time. Some of the witnesses thought he was drunk, and others believed he was only "a little touched." One said that the captain was not *compos mentis* at the time. In reply to the question what he meant by that, the witness said "*compos*, a glass; and *mentis*, too much, I suppose."

PETROLEUM AS FUEL.

Important Experiments.

We are assured that Col. Henry R. Foote, of Boston, who has devoted a large share of his life to demonstrating the eminent practicability and economy of the use of liquid fuel as an agent, or substitute, for coal in generating steam in marine and other boilers, and showing that the storage of fuel in vessels may be reduced at least two-thirds, is about to make a trip from Boston to New York, in a steamer arranged upon his system, and fed with the new fuel. The grand revolution in the supply of motive power must soon begin, and Col. Foote is determined, if possible, to be at the head of it. The steamer on which the trial is to be made is a neat, saucy craft, called the Island City, built on the Ohio, and during the war a blockade runner. The engine room, with no coal dust to foul the machinery, or choke the engineers, is a curious spectacle. The oil for this first short trip has been placed in two tanks on either side of the boiler, holding 1,000 gallons each. These tanks are securely fastened to the side of the ship and replenished from above by an orifice in the deck. Col. Foote, profiting by experience has introduced important improvements into the apparatus for vaporizing the oil which, with the improved method of introducing air and steam, render combustion of the elements more complete than on the occasion of former experiments. Instead of employing eight firemen, and a number of coal passers, as is usual in steamers of the size of the Island City, one man only can manage the four necessary fires, run, or regulated by stop cocks so easily that a child could do it. Experiments in various places in Boston have amply proved the utility of Col. Foote's fuel in manufacturing establishments, and its application to steam fire engines is looked upon with much favor. If the Island City runs well to New York on her trial trip, Mr. Foote may look for large returns from his long labor and hard earned experience.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Chicago *Tribune* relates this story of Macready when he was playing in Mobile:

"His manner at rehearsal displeased one of the actors, and this person, who was cast for the part of Claudius, in Hamlet, resolved to pay off the star. When in the last scene Hamlet stabbed the usurper, he reeled forward, and after a most spasmodic finish, he stretched himself out precisely in the place Hamlet required for his own death. Macready, much annoyed, whispered fiercely, 'Die further up the stage, sir.' The monarch lay insensible. Upon which, in a still louder voice, the Hamlet growled, 'Die further up the stage, sir.' Hereupon the Claudius, sitting up, observed, 'I b'leeve I'm king here, and I'll die where I please!' The tragedy concluded shortly after.

XLth CONGRESS.

State Taxtion of National Banks.

The Bill Passed by Both Houses.

Payment of Contracts in Coin.

Proposed Removal of the Capitol.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 3, 1868.

SENATE.

Messrs. WILLEY and FESSENDEN presented petitions of officers of the late army, praying that they be paid the increased compensation due from May, 1863, to the close of the war. Referred.

Mr. FESSENDEN presented the resolutions of the Maine Legislature in regard to taxes on National Banks. Referred.

Mr. CAMERON presented a memorial in reference to the rights of American citizens abroad, praying the appointment of Charles Francis Adams, Minister to England. Referred.

Mr. WILSON presented the petition of members of the Peace Society praying the appointment of Commissioners to Alaska to examine into the condition of the Indians.

Mr. POMEROY presented the memorial and resolutions of the Legislature of Kansas in regard to opening public lands, formerly Indian reservations, to settlement. Referred.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATATIVES.

Bills and resolutions were introduced as follows: To amend the law relative to promotion in the navy.

Relative to taxing national banks.

For the enforcement of contracts payable in coin.

To authorize the building of a military and postal railroad from Washington to New York.

Relative to Naturalization laws. [The latter provides that any man may become a citizen on application to any law court on taking the usual oath.]

Also, to authorize the issue of $140,000,000 in legal tenders to supply the deficiency caused by cancellation of legal tender and compound interest notes.

To repeal the act concerning registering ships.

To provide for the orphans of soldiers and sailors who died in service, and an asylum for disabled veterans.

Relative to grants for a railroad in Minnesota.

For the relief of the Winnebago Indians.

Making grants of land to aid in a railroad from Fort Scott to Santa Fe.

To provide for the settlement of the War debt incurred in New Mexico in aid of the suppression of the rebellion and Indian hostilities.

For building wagon roads in Dakota.

To increase the compensation of registers and receivers of public lands in Idaho.

In reference to the pay and bounty of soldiers enlisting for a specified term of service and honorably discharged before the expiration of that term.

Amendatory of the act of July 6, 1866, relative to bridging the Mississippi river.

For the removal of the national capital to St. Louis.

In relation to the claims of colored soldiers.

Making appropriation for improving the harbors in Michigan.

To regulate charges of express companies.

In relation to taxation of United States notes, national currency, &c., for State and municipal purposes.

To establish a Department of Justice. The bill provides for a secretary to be head of the law department, for an attorney general, a solicitor general, and an assistant for each. It abolishes the office of solicitors to departments, and forbids the employment of special counsels by heads of departments, except where the whole force of the law department is in efficient service. The solicitor of the Court of Claims is also placed within the department.

Also concerning American citizenship and the protection due to American citizens in foreign States. The bill is intended as a substitute for that now before the House. It declares the rights of expatriation and naturalization as part of the public law of the United States, and requires the Executive Department to afford such protection as may be within its power to all American citizens transacting lawful business in all parts of the world, and to report at once to Congress any case where such may be interfered with or denied in any foreign country, in order that the Government may intervene with effect. It also provides that American citizenship may be lost by naturalization in any foreign country, by taking service under a foreign government, or leaving the country without the intent to return. It excepts from the protection of the Government persons who expatriate themselves; who commit crimes in foreign countries; who have been abroad five years without paying taxes annually in the United States; who enter into the service of any belligerent contrary to the neutrality laws; who return to their native countries with the intent to resume domicile there; who shall be sent from actual service in the army or navy in a foreign State, or have emigrated to avoid a conscription actually ordered.

The memorial and joint resolution of the Michigan Legislature concerning improvement of the harbor of Manitowoc, and concerning the rights of naturalized citizens in foreign countries, were referred.

Mr. HUBBARD, of West Virginia, offered a resolution directing the Secretary of War to transmit copies of all correspondence between him and the Executive, limiting his authority as Secretary of War to issue orders; all correspondence between him and the General-in-Chief on the same subject, and all correspondence that may have been furnished him between the President and General-in-Chief relating to the disobeying by the General, of any orders of the War Department. Adopted.

Mr. CLEAVES offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether additional legislation is necessary to eradicate the system of peonage and Indian slavery in New Mexico. Adopted.

The House proceeded to dispose of resolutions heretofore offered, as follows:

The resolution of Mr. BROOKS, of New York, calling on the Secretary of War for copies of all general orders promulgated by the several Commanders of the five Military Districts, or pentarchies, at the South.

Mr. BLAINE remarked that the resolution was not respectful in its terms, and moved to lay it on the table.

Mr. BROOKS asked for the yeas and nayson that motion.

Mr. BLAINE said he had no objections to the resolution, if the offensive expression about pentarchies was omitted.

Mr. BROOKS admitted that pentarchies was rather a hard word, and would strike it out.

Mr. ELDRIDGE wanted to know how the word was any worse than the fact.

Mr. BLAINE withdrew his motion, and the resolution of Mr. Brooks, being modified, was adopted.

Mr. PILE'S resolution, offered December 16th, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report whether since July last, any National Banks have changed their securities held in the Treasury to secure circulation or the Government deposits, and requiring him to make no further changes in the funded securities by payment or otherwise, except of interest, until further legislation or order of Congress.

Mr. BUTLER spoke in support and explanation of the resolution, charging the Secretary of the Treasury with increasing the expenses of the Government by permitting a change of seven-thirties, currency interest, into six per cent. gold interest bearing bonds.

Mr. BLAINE remarked that the 7-30 notes bore on their face the stipulation that they were exchangeable for 5-20's, and said the gentlemen from Missouri and Massachusetts were proposing to put through under the the thumbscrew of the previous question in two minutes and a half a negative in the contract. That was the whole intent of the resolution.

After further debate, the resolution, at the expiration of the morning hour, went over.

The House resumed consideration of the Kentucky contested election case. Mr. KERR speaking in favor of Brown's right to a seat. Mr Kerr, in defending Brown from any criminality in connection with the letter written by him to the Louisville *Courier*, and which is the basis of the charges against him, said he never foolish and unadvised that letter was, it had not been followed by any act of criminality. He had heard many equally foolish statements made, even by members of the House, some of them going so far as to declare that if the President of the United States did not do certain things, he would find his Brutus.

Mr. PRICE asked whether he had made that statement in reference to Andrew Johnson finding his Brutus.

Mr. KERR stated he had.

Mr. PRICE declared the thing was entirely new to him. Being a part and parcel of the House, he wished to deny that any member, on his side of the House at least, had ever given utterance to such a sentiment, and if he was mistaken he challenged the gentleman from Indiana to give names.

Mr. KERR said the gentleman knew very well it was impossible to carry in one's memory all names and speeches. He had made the assertion from memory, and he would not re-assert it, notwithstanding the gentleman's memory was inconsistent with his own. He did not undertake to give the precise words uttered, but simply to give the idea.

Mr. PRICE declared as emphatically and as positively as he could express himself, that no man on his side of the House had, during this or any other session of Congress, in the House or out of the House, made use of any such expression, and he wished to say to the country that the Republican party in the United States did not think enough of Andrew Johnson or so little of itself as to descend to a point where, under any circumstances, it would furnish him with a "Brutus." (Laughter.)

Mr. KERR remarked, disclaiming any personal allusion, that it had been said outside of the House by a very distinguished member of the House that the time might come when the President would find himself, after the convening of Congress, suspended between heaven and earth.

Mr. WELKER inquired whether Mr. Kerr referred to a statement published as having been made by the Speaker.

Mr. KERR said he did not.

Mr. WELLER said—If so, he begged leave to say—

Mr. KERR, interrupting, said he had answered the gentleman's question.

Mr. WELKER desired in justice to the gentleman who had the honor of presiding over the House, to correct a statement which he had seen frequently published in Democratic papers throughout the country, in reference to the remarks made by the Speaker of the House in his [Welker's] town of Wooster, Ohio, where the Speaker was represented as having used words in reference to President Johnson, similar to those uttered by the gentleman from Indiana. Mr. Kerr. He [Welker] was present on that occasion, and heard the speech. It contained no such declaration. The Speaker had been alluding to the sentiment, now very general, that the President of the United States would prevent the Fortieth Congress from assembling in pursuance of its adjournment, and he remarked in that connection that while he did not himself believe that any such thing would be attempted or any other official person did overthrow and depose the law-making power of the nation by force, by preventing the representatives of the people from assembling to discharge their duties, he would find himself in the condition, after being tried and convicted of treason against the Government, of being suspended as a punishment for so wicked a crime. No remark that could be construed into a threat against the President was made by the Speaker on that occasion. The version of the speech published in the Democratic papers was an infamous falsehood.

Mr. KERR remarked that it was not necessary for him to repeat his disclaimer.

On motion of Mr. TRIMBLE, the further consideration of the Kentucky case was postponed until the 11th of February, in order that Mr. Brown might have an opportunity of addressing the House.

The SPEAKER presented communications as follows: From the Secretary of the Treasury, the necessity of further appropriations towards defraying the expenses of employing copying clerks to enable the department to answer certain calls for information.

From the same, with a statement of disbursements from the contingent fund.

From the Secretary of the Treasury, relative to special agents and detectives employed in the Treasury Department since June first, 1866.

From the same, relative to the discrimination of the champagne suits in New York. All appropriately referred.

Mr. ROBINSON asked leave to offer a resolution reciting at considerable length the facts and allegations in the case of Stephen J. Meany, John Warren, W. J. Naglee, and other American citizens arrested and imprisoned in Ireland, and requesting the President of the United States to institute an immediate examination into the facts recited in the preamble, and, if found true, to demand the immediate release of such American citizens as have been convicted for words or deeds spoken or done in the United States; to demand the immediate new trial or liberty for any American citizens denied his challenge to the array of the jury on the ground of perpetual allegiance; to demand the immediate release of W. J. Naglie, and, if the demand was not complied with, to order the arrest and detention in custody of any subjects of Great Britain who may be

The Daily Commercial

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1868.

THE COMMERCIAL *is the largest daily paper in the State, and gives daily one-fourth more reading than any other paper in Pittsburgh. It is the only Pittsburgh paper that uses the telegraph liberally gives full market reports, and all the news of the day.*

As proof of the estimate placed on the market reports of the COMMERCIAL, *we will state that they are regularly copied by the New York Economist, Shipping List, Iron Age, and other papers of this character in that and other cities, and that leading English commercial papers and circulars regularly reprint them with credit. There is within five hundred miles, hardly an Iron Factory, Oil Refinery, or leading manufactory of any kind that is not a subscriber to the* COMMERCIAL, *principally, because its reports are the only full and reliable given of the Pittsburgh markets.*

THE letters of JOHN J. CISCO, Esq., addressed to SENATOR MORGAN, on the financial problem, although containing some things which we cannot approve, and mainly in opposition to our views touching a return to specie payment, we commend to the attention of the reader. Hear all sides and then judge, is an old and safe rule, and never more worthily applied than to the financial question.

THE opinion is expressed in Washington letters that neither the reconstruction nor the Supreme Court bill will pass. The latter, after considerable debate, will be referred to the Judiciary Committee, where it will remain. The circumstances existing at the introduction of the first named bill have so changed that the necessity for it is now scarcely felt; the prospect being that nearly every State in process of reconstruction will go through successfully, and at an early day be represented in Congress.

BESIDES the reductions in the expenses of the Government already referred to, a further reduction of nearly $7,000,000 has been made in the appropriations for Judicial and Legislative expenses for the ensuing year—a saving of more than half compared with the expenses of last year. It is by such strokes of economy that the Republican party is redeeming its pledges made to the country to economise the expenses and reduce taxation. A reduction of from seventy-five to one hundred million has already been made, and still the work goes vigorously on.

WE are assured thet in printing the letter of General Cass, President of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway Company, the Chicago *Republican* omitted the letter "s" which terminated "lines." It should have read "Trunk Lines, so-called," and we make no doubt that the New York Central, and Erie and Pennsylvania Central were meant, more especially the first named road, under the management of Commodore VANDERBILT. When great corporations like these, by refusing to enter into "an equitable arrangement," impede the trade and commerce of the country, and restrict as well as unreasonably tax business, what are the people to do?

MR. DICKENS, it is now said, will return to England in the latter part of April, his proposed tour through the West having been abandoned. Of course the burning of Farwell Hall in Chicago is not the real reason, although it is the one given; and it would scarcely suit Chicago to have her poverty thus set forth. There are other good halls—besides the famous Opera House—in Chicago; and Chicago is not the whole West. We are left to infer, then, either that Mr. DICKENS perceives that by confining himself to New York and one or two other cities, he will be able to make the goodly sum he came for, or that he is convinced that in the West he would fail of obtaining the patronage he counted on. Which is it?

THE burning of Farwell Hall in Chicago, has made it necessary to look about for some other place for holding the Republican National Convention in May. A wigwam appears to be the favorite idea. It has been under consideration by the Citizens' Committee of Arrangements for some time, and will be soon decided upon. In view of the Convention and the National German Sangerfest, the *Post* makes this suggestion, which is about what we might expect from Chicago:

> "In behalf of both bodies, therefore, and especially in the interests of our city, which is so much interested with doing anything short of excelling all we or anybody else have hitherto done, we suggest the erection, in a central locality, of a Wigwam capable of comfortably accommodating from 10,000 to 15,000 people, in order that the greatest possible number of the people may participate in the most impressive political ceremony ever performed, and enjoy the grand-st musical performances ever given in the New World."

IT was rather more than half a dozen years ago that stories were put in circulation that Gen. GRANT was frequently intoxicated. The remark of Mr. LINCOLN at the time was, that he would be glad to know where GRANT procured his liquor, for he would like to send some of it to several of his other generals. The story has been revived. Considering everything, it is a wonder it has slumbered so long. But no one is disposed to vouch for its truth. It was set going in a sensation dispatch to the *World*, caught up by WENDELL PHILLIPS—who while rolling it in his mouth like a sweet morsel declares that of its truth he knows nothing at all—and repeated by the more outrageous of the Democratic press. For a hard drinker—which they would have us believe GRANT is—it must be confessed that he gets on amazingly well—not only in the performance of his public duties, but in keeping the evidences of his bad habits so close that nobody can speak in anything more than the faintest hearsay and at long intervals. It will occur to most of persons that by this time, the habit if real, should begin to tell on the man, and that somebody should be able to speak with some degree of positiveness. Either the General is the most wonderful man alive, or the aforesaid report should be received with a grain of allowance. To say the very least, if there were more just like GRANT, in office at the seat of government, the people would be better satisfied, and be willing to run all risk as to habits. GRANT's liquor, as Mr. LINCOLN suggested concerning his Generals, might do some others a great deal of good.

PARTY SPIRIT AND ITS INSTRUMENT.

A reproach frequently brought against us as a nation is our party spirit. In the form in which the charge is usually made it indicates strange ignorance, or equally strange forgetfulness in the critic. A free people who choose their own rulers and manage their own government must, while human nature continues what it is, entertain different views on the great subjects that interest them, and consequently must be partisans. The truths of political science can not be demonstrated or proved as a theorem in geometry is proved, so as to leave no place for cavil or argument on opposite sides. Nothing more cogent than moral evidence can be adduced for or against any governmental measure, and in adopting or rejecting it we must proceed on a careful estimate of probabilities. It is well for us that it is so, as the restless and ever unsatisfied instinct for truth is at once a powerful incentive to exertion, and an unfailing source of satisfaction. In our present state we are not qualified to repose in the contemplation or knowledge of pure truth. A proposition in morals, or in politics, which admits of no discussion, is rendered mean in our eyes; it becomes common place and uninteresting, and if wewere condemned to live and act, to legislate and to vote in the exercise of infallible intuition, an earthly paradise would be transformed into a purgatory.

Another thing to be remembered: whoever is sincere and earnest in maintaining a policy in government, or a view in morals, inevitably becomes a partisan if his policy or his view encounters opposition. Only the skeptical, or the insincere, can be indifferent and equally content whichever side prevails. Very great intelligence will not always prevent energetic and single minded men from contending even fiercely for opinions exceedingly abstract or recondite, if they involve important practical consequences. There was a time, not many centuries ago, when the best educated and most scholarly men of their age, became riotous and ranged in opposing bands, fought with clubs and swords for and against the doctrine which was the bone of strife between the Nominatists and the Realists. Is the word *tree* a mere name of the combination of qualities seen in all trees? or does it denote a real tree, which is the type of all individual trees? And so in regard to all general terms; those good and well-informed men strove for and against the notion, that each of them designates a reality existing in nature, and is not a name and nothing more.

Though we may seem to have wandered from our subject, our object has been to show on how ancient and respectable a foundation partyism rests. Owning the right and duty of the people to battle earnestly for expedient measures, we shall not be nice in rigorously exacting a polished, or even a decorous, tone of discussion from every one who takes in hand the instruction, or the exhortation of his fellow-citizens. No reasonable student of history now-a-days judges LUTHER harshly for calling HENRY VIII., of England a dog and a wild-boar. Nor do we relish MILTON'S poems the less—or less value his services in behalf of liberty—because in controversy he applied to his opponents epithets too offensive for translation into the vulgar tongue. Men engaged in earnest battle for truth have not time to nicely weigh their words. And besides some able men have held that to disparage an antagonist by the application of opprobrious names, is sometimes a duty. DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON thought that this was the proper way to treat DAVID HUME; the indfiel's very respectable private character giving to his dangerous opinions a degree of influence which might be partially lessened, or neutralized by insulting their champion. Some people have severely censured the great moralist for this notion, and some of his admirers have gone so far as to deny that he seriously entertained so shocking a view in regard to the tactics of controversy. They quote his confessions made at different times, that "he often talked laxly," and that "he often talked for victory." Those who disapprove of calumny as an instrument of debate and as a means of propagating the truth, will naturally attach weight to this apology. But at the present time there are many who must rejoice to find a method of their own invention sanctioned by the illustrious lexicographer's precept, and who would, of course, give no ear to any attempt to show that he did not mean what he said. Whatever objections may be alleged against the method, much can surely be said in its favor. We have space now to mention, and only to mention two considerations. The first is the effectiveness of the weapon. Some may be ready to question or deny this, but without good reason. Persons familiar with history could easily prove from a large induction of instances that in this strangely constituted world lies are strong and not weak. We may be met with the familiar quotation from BRYANT: "Truth crush'd to earth will rise again." And this is correct; truth down will rise again, but ages may elapse before it rises, as the poet seems to have meant when he added: "The eternal years of GOD are hers." In the meantime the enterprising individvals who put her down have often gained what they wanted; have lived prosperously in consequence, and having died, their fine characters may be read, if not in history, on their tombstones.

The other circumstance in favor of the weapon is the ease with which it can be wielded. Its hilt is adapted to all hands, from that of a giant to that of a child, while no feebleness of intellect and no imbecility or baseness of moral nature is sufficient to disqualify for the effective employment of this most flexible instrument. We must not allow this quality of the weapon to be a reason for despising it. The able politician or statesman may justly disdain to use it himself, but let him not on that account refuse to avail himself of its execution in the hand of others. Perhaps there was reason to hope or fear that the great national trials of the last few years had so changed the tone of character throughout the country as to supersede this powerful agent as an instrument of party warfare. Some supposed that it would never again be deemed necessary to show that the candidates for the Presidency were men addicted to low vices and bad morals generaly. The newspapers of the last few days have quite dispelled this illusion. Hence we may congratulate the indiscriminated admirers and praisers of the past on the unchanged fervor of our party spirit and on the conservation in undiminished vigor of our ancient political life.

The Ohio Democracy.

A late number of the Dayton *Ledger*, the hone egan of C. L. Vallandigham, contains a lenghty editorial explaining the "lesson of the Eighth District," meaning thereby the defeat of Colonel Barnabas Burns, Democrat, for Congress at the special election. The article in question commences with the frank admission that the result in the Eighth District indicates a Republican majority in the State next Fall of from twelve to twenty thousand. Taking this result as his text, the editor proposes to comment upon it, but instead of doingso reviews the doings of the Ohio Democrac, from 1863 to date. In this review it is attempted to be shown that whenever the Democracy threw aside the policy of Vallandigham and his followers, and adopted an expediency couse, they were defeated, but that when the oppesite policy was pursued they were successful. That is about the tenor of the article, but whether it will be intelligible to the Democracy is question for them to solve.

The *Ledger* holds that the election of 1867 was a victory of he Democratic masses, fought upon a platform ceated by Vallandigham, and that the latter contributed largely to the triumph by his efforts on the "stump" everywhere: that the poley men of the party after the election, although they knew Vallandigham was the choice of th masses, sounded the cry that Vallandigham would injure the party, and a less obnoxious man must be chosen for United States Senator; that the State Convention of January 8, 868, was composed largely of men who had forsaken the party in its hour of trial, but had now "turned up like vitures and cormorants hovering over the spoils;" that this convention, "through the basat of treachery," handed over the entire controlof the Democratic organization, upon certain conditions relative to nominations for high places to the men who in 1863, refused to support Vllandigham for Governor: that this convention dopted a platform "emasculated of every distinctive old-fashioned Democratic principle, as distinguished from mere line of policy, and, or the first time, containing a quasi indorsement of the late civil war as one waged 'in defense of the Union,' a well known public falsehood;" that Colonel Burns, who opposed Vallandigham for Governor in 1863, was nominated for Congress two days after the meeting of the Stat Convention, and was defeated by an increased Republicaan majority over last fall.

The above are the main points in the *Ledger's* article, from which it argues that "policy" in the Democratic party won't succeed. The balance of power in the ranks of the Ohio Democracy is evidently with the Thurman faction, and the article above referred to indicates that the Vallandighammers will not surrender in the Presidential campaign without a struggle.

THE latest accession to Mr. Pendleton, is the St. Paul *Pioneer*, which declares that Minnesota will cast her vote for him in the National Convention. A bureau to advance his nomination is to be opened in Washington. In proportion as his prospect improves, the opposition to him become more active, though they have not as yet concentrated on any one.

THE coal statistics for the United States show that in 1867 the whole supply of anthracite was 12,650,571 tons, being an increase of 271,081 tons over the previous year. Of bituminous and semi-bituminous the supply in 1867 was 14,906,309 tons, showing a decrease of 82,578 tons under the product of 1866. Of both kinds there were sent to market 11,906,309 tons, about one-third not reaching the seaboard. Thus, on the line of the Schuylkill, were used 1,107,826 tons, and between Mauch Chunk and Bristol, 912,325. The total amount of coal mined in 1867 was 25,800,000 tons.

A Frankfort (Ky.) dispatch of the 31st says: A negro was executed by a mob last night, on an accusation of rape upon a white female. It is proved to-day that he was innocent. His employer, whose authority seems unquestionable, swears positively to an *alibi*. There was no guard over the jail, though the deed was expected.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

English Trepidation and Plain Speaking

English opinion with regard to the settlement of the Alabama claims has changed rapidly within the last fortnight. Since the publication of the dispatch from Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams, breaking off, for the present, the negotiations, many candid English critics have been calling upon their government to retract its obstinacy. Lord Hobart, in a letter to the London *Times*, hardly two weeks since, says Mr. Seward's dispatch to his Minister was of more importance to the future of England than any similar document published in recent times. He asks if the British nation is really prepared to accept the responsibility of a refusal not only to yield to the demand of the United States, but a refusal also to submit the case, except in a very partial and limited way, to arbitration? He says it may well be asked whether, if a question such as that of the recognition of the South as belligerent, inflicting, as it did, serious loss and injury upon a friendly State, be not a proper subject for arbitration, any great question of foreign policy "can ever hereafter be decided by any other than those time-honored but somewhat illogical authorities, bullets and cold steel." Lord Hobart also expressly states, as one great reason for at once and forever settling the Alabama question, that the United States Government intimates that it may now be obliged to conform its principles and policy, with regard to Fenianism, to those which it considers to have been the principles of England during the rebellion. Nothing else, he claims, is wanting to make Fenianism, which is now only troublesome and vexatious, both serious and formidable.

It was the British Minister who proposed the monstrous paragraph included in the Declaration of Paris in 1836, which was the expression of a hope, in which the other powers signing joined, that in future nations should, before declaring war, refer the matter in dispute to the judgment of a neutral state. Now it is the British government that protests against the application of the principle contained in that paragraph, on the first opportunity of standing by them. Governments have short memories, and it remains to be seen if Lord Hobart and the large class who think as he does, shall succeed in pinching the British lion's ear long enough to awaken him into remembrance of his precedents for action, and the fact that he had better not postpone the settlement of the Alabama claims.

PRESIDENTIAL.

The Columbus *Journal* says: The following papers in Ohio have declared for Mr. Chase for President. A glance will show that the list contains some of the most influential papers in Ohio: Ashland *Times*, Ashtabula *Sentinel*, Butler *Telegraph*, Bucyrus *Journal*, Cleveland *Leader*, Jackson *Standard*, Oberlin *News*, McConnellsville *Herald*, Ottawa *Union*, *Western Reserve Chronicle*. The following seem to favor Chase, without being fully committed. Ripley *Bee*, Mac-a-cheek *Press*, Wilmington *Republican*, Sandusky *Register*, Xenia *Torchlight*, Cincinnati *Commercial*, Mt. Vernon *Republican*, Ironton *Register*, Miami *Union*, Eaton *Register*, Zanesville *Times*, and Lebanon *Star*. Of the remaining Republican papers of the State, twenty-nine are fully committed for Grant, others are understood to favor Grant, and a small number are for Thomas, Sheridan, or non committal. It is safe to say that all will support the nominee of the Republican party, with their utmost vigor and ability.

To Cure the Inebriate.

The second annual report of Joseph Parrish, M. D., President of the Citizens' Association of Pennsylvania, is out. He states that the Sanitarium, for persons suffering from the effects of alcoholic stimulants and opium, was opened for the reception of patients on June 18, 1867, since which time there have been under treatment twenty-six persons—twenty-four of whom had been addicted to the excessive use of alcoholic stimulants, one to the habitual indulgence of opium, and one to both opium and whiskey.

Dr. Parrish continues his report saying: The first step in the recovery of an inebriate is to remove him from the associations which have surrounded him in his daily life, and at once promote his self-respect by treating him, not as a vagabond and outcast, but as an unfortunate brother who is entitled to consideration and sympathy. The next step is to inspire him with confidence in the power to be his friend and help to his relief, and thus secure his co-operation in the use of the means that are instituted in his behalf. Having secured to him personal comforts and sympathy in the midst of new and improving surroundings, all of which have drawn out the concurrent efforts of his own will, he can appropriate successfully the medical agencies that are prescribed for him, be greatly benefitted; though truth demands the avowal of the fact that there are inebriates whose moral strength has been so far prostrated by excesses, as to render recovery an impossibility. The trustees of such a benevolent institution, may guard and defend them from hasty destruction, and at the same time be an incalculable relief to their families.

Famine in Tunis

A correspondent of the London *Telegraph* gives an account of the famine in Tunis. The country is in a most wretched state. The Arabs are dying by thousands from cold and starvation. In Tunis alone 8000 have died in two months. The streets are full of orphans from three to eight years old, naked and starving, eating the offal they find. Mothers abandon their children, or sell them to Europeans for less than a shilling. Private charity can do little, and the embarrassed government not much more. In Prussia affairs are not much better. Letters from that country portray the intensity of the distress in terrible language. Out of twenty-two houses in one village on Jan. 1st, but two were found to contain any fire, and there was not a particle of food in any of them. The thermometer then stood at 58 degrees below the freezing point. A more hopeful state of affairs is presented in France, and public beneficence seems to keep pace with the wants of the destitute. The Emperor learned that the warehouses of the *Mont de Piete*. In Paris, were crowded with articles, generally of first necessity, which had been pawned by workmen in distress, and he had issued orders for their gratuitous return

A Genuine Gorilla.

A live gorilla is now on its way from Africa to the London Zoological Society. It was captured by a native, who suddenly came upon a family group of the animals. The mother, contrary to what might have been expected, abandoned her "baby" and ran off; the father showed fight, rushing at the native open-mouthed, and receiving a stab in the side from the spear, which caused him to retreat a little, when the man, not waiting to receive a second attack, snatched up the child and made his retreat home as soon as possible. The gorilla is fed upon goat's milk, raw eggs, and berries. A Mr. Walker, the possessor, writes:

> The gorilla of the little finger which he caught was quite touching to witness; he could scarcely bear to be looked at, and, if at all annoyed by the presence of many people round him, would lie on the ground, with his face buried in his hands, and sway his head from side to side as if in an agony of sorrow at losing his parents; and even now, when left alone for any length of time, he has relapses of the same kind, and appears to be in great tribulation.

Senatorial Amenities.

Reverdy Johnson in opening his reply to Senator Morton's speech on reconstruction, paid him the following compliment: "I proceed now to the speech of the honorable member from Indiana, (Mr. Morton.) In common with every member of the Senate, I listened to that speech not only with pleasure, but with admiration. It was courteous, logically argumentative, and had the true spirit of eloquence. It was a speech of which the Senate has a right to feel proud. It brought back our debates, if they have wandered from that standard, to the standard of former days, when no personal reflections were indulged in, when high and elevated principles guided the discussion, when the good of the country alone seemed to be considered, and not the mere success of party."

The Missouri Bridge.

The St. Louis *Republican* of Saturday says: Captain James B. Eads returned to the city yesterday, having completed such arrangements as will secure the speedy construction of the railroad and passenger bridge across the Missouri river at St. Charles. We learn that the plans proposed contemplate a bridge of great strength and durability, and that it will be a grand achievement of engineering, both in the scientific principles involved, and in the mechanical skill displayed in their application to the completion of the structure.

IT generally happens that when an industrial or economic invention is adopted by other nations than the one which gave it birth, its new application gives rise to improvements. Thus, the English tramroad or railway has been in this country made exceedingly useful in city transportation by means of quiet and quick running street cars. Now, the American horse-cars are finding great acceptance in the old world again. But in Paris, the first city that has adopted them extensively, the cars are run by a flat wheel, without a flange, upon a flat rail, without a groove, the vehicle being kept in place by a central fifth wheel, running in a grooved central rail. This is attached to the car, by means of which the driver can release the car, and run off the track, either for the purpose of turning out for a coming car (doing away with the necessity of a double track on a road of much used), or of getting more friction in going down a grade. Thus each new user of an idea gives it a new use; and the ingenious Frenchmen have even found use for the fifth wheel of a coach.

GENERAL GRANT's proposition, adopted unanimously by the Trustees of the Peabody Fund, that as large a portion of the principal, not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, as can be advantageously used in promoting the object of the trust, should be expended during the current year, as giving general satisfaction. It is in accordance with the express permission of Mr. Peabody, that a sum not exceeding forty per cent. of the principal may be thus expended; and in view of the prevailing destitution throughout the South, at present, the expenditure of this sum now will be more necessary and useful in promoting the great object in view, than a larger sum in ordinary years.

IN Ireland the Fenians are actually objecting to pay rent for land, and that their organization is so perfect that it is impossible to carry out the ordinary processes of law in such cases. Bailiffs are hunted like wolves, and if offenders are arrested they are promptly acquitted by Fenian juries. As for sales of seized property, no man bids for his neighbor's goods. The landlords are naturally much alarmed at this new phase of disontent, and are almost in despair at the prospects. They are touched at last in the most tender point.

PERSONAL.

—The arrival of the body of the unfortunate Archduke Maximilian produced a profound sensation in Europe, and revived for a while the associations connected with his unhappy career. His widow, who is still residing near Brussels, in the apartments where she was born not yet twenty-eight years ago, knows nothing of her misfortunes. Her bodily health is good, but her mind is a blank, and the Brussels people, as they see her occasionally driving through the streets with her brother the king, look angry, and say uncivil things of imperial dignities.

—The King of Greece, though young, begins his administration modestly. On the first Sunday after accepting the throne he surprised the people by going to church on foot, accompanied only by an officer. The ministers came out in their carriages with coachmen and footmen in livery, but when they saw the king on foot, dismissed their carriages and walked to church. A throne had been prepared for him, which he would not occupy, saying he wanted no parade in the house of God. He is unostentatious, and lives in a very plain manner. It is in great contrast to Otho, who made a grand parade. His queen, Amelia, was also fond of show, and her influence was altogether bad, begetting a desire among the wealthier people to ride in state and live in princely style. The course pursued by King George thus far, and by his new bride, gives great satisfaction.

—At a recent meeting in Selma, Ala., ex-Confederate General Hardee referred to the soldierly magnanimity of Grant and Sherman, and of his old classmate, General Meade, he said: "I know him well. He is emphatically a soldier and a gentleman—a man of ability, honor, and integrity. He has come among us, under orders, to execute the laws of Congress, which I know he will do, without fear, favor, or affection. But I will venture to saythat, in the execution of these laws, there will be as much of kindness and generosity extended on the part of this district as the nature of his duties will permit. I feel assured that he is free from partisanship, and from personal and sectional prejudice, and that in the discharge of his office he will, unInfluenced by other than professional and patriotic motives, look to the good of the entire country."

—Dr. Nelaton, the great Paris surgeon, recently performed a difficult and dangerous operation upon Count de Goltz, the Prussian Minister to France. As the result was doubtful the Count went to Berlin to settle his affairs, and returned to submit to the operation. It seems that M. Goltz perceived one morning a swelling on the end of his tongue; he remembered that his father had died of a disease which had commenced with a similar swelling. He sent for Nelaton, who announced that an operation was necessary. The Count was under the knife for the long period of ten minutes. He is a strong man, and throughout the operation had to hold him. The Emperor sends every day to inquire after him, and the King and Queen of Prussia and M. Bismarck make frequent inquiries by telegraph. He can take broth and tea, and is said to be in a fair way for rapid recovery.

—Queen Victoria, in addition to the honor of preventing a war between the United States and England, during our civil war, is also entitled to the credit of preventing a deadly strife in London. In May last the English Ministry had resolved to call out the military and prevent the London Reformers from holding their meetings in Hyde Park. It now appears that this plan was only prevented by the peremptory interference of the Queen. She sent for Lord Derby, delivered to him her personal command that no troops should be used, and, as she might well doubt whether he would feel bound to regard such a prohibition, required of him his personal pledge that her order should be obeyed. He gave it, and there was averted a collision sure to have been disastrous, and possibly revolutionary in its results.

—Bismarck has been out shooting, with what the reporters call a "brilliant hunting party," and killed 156 hares with his own hand. His shot was unusually certain, and his bullets hit the dying game, though he had but seldom time for aiming, at a distance of 120 paces.

—"Professor" Wick, one of the witnesses in the McEwen case, testified that Barnum's hairy Infant was his adopted daughter; that P. T. B. had paid him three thousand dollars for the use, and the right to adopt, himself; had named her Anna Jones Wick, adding, "I put in the name Jones for the sake of euphony!"

—M. Bellazzi, a member of the Italian Parliament, committed suicide recently by firing three barrels of a revolver in the region of the heart. Arranged in front of him while he committed the fatal act were three portraits of a young Milanese lady to whom he was engaged to be married, but whose parents had broken off the match on the ground that Bellazzi and Mesabrea had dismissed him from a prefecture to which he had been appointed by M. Rattazzi (his intimate friend), his worldly possession was too uncertain.

—In reply to Mr. Doolittle's attack on Gen. Grant, Senator Nye told the story of the attack on a celebrated New England clergyman, who met his accusers by asking them if they had ever seen a dog barking at the moon. "Oh, no," was the reply; "never saw a sheep." "Well, now, my friends, please tell me if you ever heard of a dog getting near enough to the moon *to bite it*?"

—At last week's reception of the Postmaster General at Washington, Mrs. Randall was attired in a rich white silk dress, trimmed with black lace. Mrs. Otis wore a dress of Brasmir moire antique, trimmed with blue satin. Among the guests were Mrs. Williams, of Oregon, dressed in a pink moire antique, Mrs. Pameroy, of Kansas, in ashes of rose colored silk, trimmed with scarlet velvet, Mrs. Chandler, of Michigan, in a corn colored satin, trimmed with black lace; Miss Chandler in a white silk, low neck, and short sleeves; Mrs. Woodbridge, of Vermont, in black velvet, and Miss Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, dressed in green silk.

—Mrs. Frederick Seward is at present suffering from the bite of a pet squirrel. It seems that the little pet was in the habit of amusing himself on the shoulders of his particular friends. In one of his playful moods, he ran up Mrs. Seward's neck, and amused himself behind her ear, until becoming entangled in her hair, he endeavored with considerable violence, to extricate himself. The fair lady, with the best intentions of assisting in the disentanglement, put up her hand, which was promptly bitten. She suffered intense pain, and had been transferred to a friend, who affirms that henceforth he shall be kept in a cage.

—Private letters from Chicago to the Indianapolis *Journal* state that Mrs. Lincoln is insane beyond all doubt. She recently sold all the furniture in her house, and has two old men as body guard, believing she will be robbed and murdered. Her mania is for selling things, and a dread lest she come come to want. All her friends are said to be conscious of her mental condition, but think, so long as she is harmless, her removal to a lunatic asylum would increase her derangement.

—Lord Brougham is now represented to have lost the power of speech; he can only feebly articulate, and has been deprived of the use of his limbs. At the same time his robust intellect survives this physical ruin, save at rare intervals, when it is manifest that his mind is wandering.

—A Rev. John Haswood, of Springfield, Ohio has received a bequest of £80,000 from the estate of a relative in England.

—Rev. Dr. Lyman, rector of the American Episcopal Church at Rome, Italy, has returned to this country to beg money to build a chapel outside the walls of Rome. His testimony settles the fact that Protestants are not allowed freedom of religious worship in Rome, except at the hands of foreign ambassadors.

—Hon. Amos Kendall, of Washington, D. C., who paid $100,000 to build the Calvary Baptist Church in that city, recently destroyed by fire, proposes that the structure shall be immediately rebuilt, it being understood that he will mainly pay the bills. The former house cost $120,000, its ground rent $6,000 per annum. It is proposed that the new house shall be fully equal to the other.

—The *United States Railroad Register*, of Philadelphia, says: In this city, on Thursday last, articles of agreement were signed by representatives of the Warren and Franklin, the Farmers', and the Oil Creek Railroad Companies, whereby the three corporations are merged into one, named "The Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railroad Company," with a share capital of $4,250,000. The length of the roads consolidated is—

Warren and Franklin railroad—Irvinetown to Oil City	51 miles.
Oil Creek Railroad—Corry to Petroleum Centre	38 miles.
Farmers' railroad—Oil City to Petroleum Centre	8 miles.
Farmers' railroad—Cherry Run Branch—Rouseville to Plummer	3 miles.
	11 miles.
Total	100 miles

The consolidated Company have purchased the Reno railroad, and intend, it is said, to take up its track and use the rails to lay down the wide gauge from Petroleum Centre to Oil City, and the narrow gauge from Oil City to Franklin, thus making both gauges continuous and unbroken between Corry and Franklin. The merger stipulates that one common charge shall be imposed on oil irrespective of distance carried over the consolidated line; minimum specified, fifty cents per barrel. Hence, according to our information, the charge will be the same on a barrel of oil whether it be carried from Petroleum Centre to Corry, thirty-eight miles, destined for the Erie or Lake Shore roads, or from Petroleum Centre via Oil City to Irvinson, fifty-nine miles, destined for the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad. The avowed intention of the parties in the merger is, to make and maintain the Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railway a public highway open to the cars of all railroad and transportation companies, on payment of a horizontal charge per barrel of oil, no matter what the length of milleage traversed between the termini of the consolidated roads. It is said, moreover, that the articles of agreement are so drawn that certain vital provisions cannot be altered without unanimous consent of the parties in interest, and that this fixed and stationary clause was inserted so that, in the event of the transfer of a majority of capital stock, new owners cannot repeal, revoke or modify the intent and object of the act of merger.

The Toledo *Blade* states that the value of the improvements in that city in 1867 is over two million dollars. The number of new buildings erected was 1,450. The population in August, 1866, was 24,401. The *Blade* says it is now 31,651.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

New Projects---Another Railroad Combination---Election of Directors---Items of General Interest.

—It is stated that the Warren and Pine Grove Railway will be completed as far as Dunkirk early in the summer.

—The earnings of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway for the third week in January were $12,000 more than for the corresponding week last year. The road is said to be doing a splendid freighting business.

—The Executive Committee appointed by the corporators of the Cleveland, Wooster and Zanesville Railroad Company announce that the books for subscriptions to the capital stock will be opened in Cleveland on the 27th of Febarury. The capital stock of the company is fixed at $2,000,000, and one-tenth of this amount, or $300,000, must be taken before the organization can be perfected by the election of a Board of Directors and officers. The object of this contemplated road is to place Cleveland, Berea, Medina, Seville, Wooster and other places in direct communication with the coal fields of Central Ohio, and to open up a new thoroughfare of trade.

The Oberlin *News* says that a meeting was held on Saturday evening, 25th inst., which was spent in a discussion of the various projects before the public and particularly the one for building a railroad from Massillon to Oberlin. It was said that should Oberlin build a road to Grafton, the citizens of Medina county and of Massillon would build it through to the eastern terminus. The cost of a road to Grafton was estimated at about $50,000. The route would be thirty-seven miles in length if direct, and thirty-nine if by way of Seville.

—It is stated that negotiations, for some time pending, have been concluded between the Baltimore and Ohio, Marietta and Cincinnati, and Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad Companies, by which these lines, so far as working arrangements are concerned, are to be one. This will operate largely in favor of Cincinnati, and will also secure the putting in good and complete order, the Marietta road, which has hitherto had but a feeble existence. For some reason or other this road has never had the co-operation of the Baltimore and Ohio management, but now is to have powerful and active influences at both ends. This management has been forced by the operations of the Pennsylvania Central and New York Central interests, which have been gradually linking lines together, until each has now almost continuous road extending from the seaboard to the West. No details of the new combination have yet been published, but the plan has been agreed upon and will soon be put into operation.

—The stockholders of the Little Miami Railroad Company, last week, made a radical change in the management of the road. They elected for President Mr. E. W. Woodward, one of the most capable of the railroad men of the West; for Secretary, Charles P. Cassilly; Treasurer, S. E. Wright; Auditor, D. G. A. Davenport; General Superintendent, John Durand; General Ticket Agent, William L. O'Brian; General Freight Agent, Xenia Torchlight. For Board of Directors, they elected the following named gentlemen: E. W. Woodward, Larz Anderson, John Kilgour, and H. H. Clement, L. B. Harrison, Charles P. Cassilly, Edmund Dexter, Joseph C. Butler, Henry Hanna, John Bacon, of Springfield, Abraham Hiveling, of Xenia, and Joseph R. Swan, of Columbus.

—The Legislature of New Jersey has before it a bill of no extraordinary character, by which it is designed to compel the New Jersey Central Railroad to pay the State $300,000 annually for the use of lands under water in Communipaw bay. This bill is either a "pincher," or it is a scheme of its rival, the Camden and Amboy, to annoy the company. The ground on which the Legislature claims that the company's riparian rights was totally unfit for use in any way, until the Central road improved it and made it valuable only to them. It is singular the State took no steps to prevent the company making the improvement, and it is still more singular that now it should seek to harrass them in the manner indicated.

—The passengers on the Buffalo, Corry and Pittsburgh Railroad, going east, were delayed by snow in one of the deepcuts, about six miles from Brocton, from 9 o'clock on Friday morning until 5 o'clock in the evening. While thus detained, Daniel Williams, Esq., one of the directors of the road, came up with a number of sleighs and conveyed the passengers to Brocton, where a sumptuous dinner was served up at the company's expense. In the afternoon the passengers were conveyed to their destinations of the Lake Shore Wine Company, where they were shown through the extensive works and handsomely entertained by G. E. Ryckman of that company. After full justice had been done to the hospitalities extended, a meeting of the passengers was organized. Numerous complimentary speeches were made and a committee of three appointed to draft resolutions. The passengers were so agreeably entertained during their detention that neither the ladies nor gentlemen regretted the time lost.

—The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has published its report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1865, delayed in consequence of difficulties of settling accounts during the war. The Company has deemed it proper to place all the expenditures for the maintenance and increase of machinery, the construction of tracks, &c., for the year 1865, as expenses. The following is the result in the comparative earnings and working expenses on the main stem for three years: Earnings, 1863, $6,509,945, working expenses do., $4,065,847, earnings, 1864, $8,577,692; working expenses do., $5,270,569; earnings, 1865, $10,096,706; working expenses, do, $5,658,722. Thus the earnings in 1865, in comparison with the fiscal year 1864, show an increase of $1,519,018, while the working expenses $2,388,213, making this a comparative decrease of net profits of the main stem of $969,199. Compared with the fiscal year 1864, the increase of earnings being $3,586,761, and the increase of working expenses $1,592,874, the decrease of net profits amounted to $106,113. The balance of cash in the treasury on September 30, 1865, was $1,302,898, after deducting $130,905 for payment of interest on the city loan, and for the account of the Company, which matured October 1, 1865. Of the Washington branch the earnings for the year were $916,286, showing an increase of $51,805, compared with the previous year. The expenditures for the year amount to $385,140, being for the completion of the second track and other improvements, for the reconstruction of bridges, the repairs of railway depots, bridges and water stations, &c. The aggregate earnings of the main stem and all the branches of the road in 1865, were $11,771,875, and the expenses $6,740,021, leaving net earnings amounting to $5,031,854, an aggregate net decrease, compared with the preceding year, of $660,836.

CITY MATTERS.

BROKE HIS LEG.—Yesterday afternoon as a gentleman was driving a horse and buggy along Smithfield street, near Fifth, the horse slipped and fell on the roadway, breaking one of his legs. He was taken outside the city limits, and killed.

SHEEP STOLEN.—A sheep valued at twenty-six dollars, belonging to Theodore Bellsteh, a butcher, was stolen yesterday morning from Geib's stable, in the Third ward, Allegheny. The lock of the stable door was broken open. The police were notified, but no trace of the thief or the missing sheep has been discovered.

THE BOSTON CONVENTION.—Messrs. Thurston, Cass, Bennett, Brunot, McCandless, Hailman and Herron, of the Committee of the Board of Trade of Pittsburgh appointed to attend the Boston Commercial Convention, left for Boston yesterday afternoon. Delegations from the Boards of Trade of the cities of Cincinnati, Chicago and Milwaukee, passed through the city yesterday on their way to attend the same Convention.

SICKNESS IN JAIL.—Yesterday, the Jail Physician, Dr. W. H. McKelvy, made a statement to Court, certifying that a prisoner named John McFetrich, confined for larceny, was sick with veritable small pox, and recommended his removal from prison. The Court issued an order for the removal of McFetrich to Passavant's Infirmary, whither he was taken during the afternoon. A woman named Mary Ann Moore, also in jail for larceny, is sick with varioloid.

SLIGHT FIRE.—The alarm from Box No. 5, at the Eagle Engine House, shortly after six o'clock yesterday morning, was occasioned by the discovery of fire in the cellar of the machine shop of S. S. Fowler, fronting on Water street. The firemen were promptly on hand, but their services were not required, as the fire was extinguished by the application of a few buckets of water, and with but little damage. The fire caught from the furnace in the shop.

LIVE POULTRY SHIPMENT.—We noticed on the Pennsylvania Railroad track yesterday a stock car loaded, far out in Ohio, with live geese and chickens, destined for the New York market. The car contained five hundred geese, seven hundred chickens, and a few ducks. In the New York city markets live poultry is preferred to dressed, and we learn that the persons engaged in shipping from Ohio, where they purchase cheap, are making a handsome profit on their investments, notwithstanding the business looks at first sight rather risky.

CORNER LOAFING.—The practice of corner loafing is industriously persevered in, in the two cities, and numerous complaints have been made from various quarters of the loafers, who stand on street corners and use the most vulgar language, and make insulting remarks to passers-by, especially to ladies. We are glad to see that the police have abated the nuis

The Daily Commercial

LETTER TO THE Hon. E. D. Morgan, UNITED STATES SENATE, ON THE FINANCES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24, 1867.

SIR.—Your letter of 19th inst., asking for my views of the Bill for Funding the National Debt and for the Conversion of the Notes of the United States, just reported by the Finance Committee of the Senate, has been received. I reply, after careful examination of the Bill and the Committee's accompanying report:

1. The Committee propose to fund the debt, over again. The debt, with the exception of a small amount, is already funded, mostly in 5-20 bonds. By the first of next August almost all of it will be funded in these and other long bonds, except that part of the debt which is in legal-tender notes. The Secretary of the Treasury has been for two years anxious to carry out the present process of funding, and it is now nearly complete. Just before it is completed, the Committee propose to do this work all over again. I can see no possible good to result from this to any one, except to those who are to make commissions out of the exchange of old bonds for new ones. Payment of none of the 5-20 bonds can be demanded of the government for fifteen years to come. It appears to me, therefore, that no further funding process is necessary, and that that part of the subject is better left alone. There was a time when, with great advantage to the credit of the Treasury, the 7-30 notes and other short obligations might have been funded into something else than gold-bearing bonds, but this opportunity has been lost.

2. The reason given by the Committee for funding the debt over again is not a very creditable one. They propose it in order to remove doubts as to the debt being payable in coin. Have the Committee any doubt that those who bought the 5-20s, during the war, understood they were to be paid in coin, and that the United States allowed the purchasers so to believe? The United States is boundmorally to redeem their promise in the sense in which they allowed it to be understood by the promise, and no argument can honestly be resorted to for the purpose of twisting the actual words of the promise into any other meaning. No matter at how low a price the bonds were sold, they would have been sold at a still lower price if they had been made payable in legal-tender notes. The United States therefore received the then value of a gold promise. Without the expense and trouble of another funding process, all doubts can be removed by a simple Act making the 5-20s expressly payable in coin.

The Committee propose to remove these doubts at the expense of the creditor. They offer to give the creditor a new bond in exchange for the old one, the new bond paying him only five per cent. interest, whereas by the old one he is entitled to six. In order to induce the creditor to acquiesce in this losing bargain to him, the Finance Committee of the United States Senate, by their unanimous assent, recite the arguments of others in favor of paying the present bonds in a depreciated currency, not contemplated by the bondholder when he bought the bonds. They do not expressly indorse these arguments, but they do not, on the other hand, utterly condemn them. Just doubt enough is left hanging over the matter to frighten the public creditor into acquiescence. I regret that this part of the subject has been so treated by the Committee. It was needless to enter into any such argument, for the Committee do not propose to issue any more legal-tender notes; and it is very evident that the Treasury notes will not enable it to redeem its 5-20 bonds now, whether in paper or coin. The public creditor may, in fact, safely disregard a threat to pay him his principal now in greenbacks, and may safely keep his 5-20 bonds, for the Treasury cannot carry out the threat. If the creditors take this view of the case, it is obvious that the proposed new funding process will fail to be carried out. The proposal to pay the bonds in greenbacks cannot be carried out except by an issue of more legal-tender notes; against this the Committee very properly set their face. Their argument on this point was, therefore, needless; the implied threat is an empty one.

The proposal to exempt the holders of the new bonds from the income tax to the general government, to which all bondholders are now subject, I am aware, makes the new bonds a little better than a five per cent. security, so far as our own citizens are concerned; but I doubt the wisdom of such an exemption. The jealousy excited by it will not be allayed by the proposed distribution of money among the State governments. I doubt, also, the wisdom of making the State governments in any way pensioners upon the Treasury.

I can see no advantage in the proposal to make legal-tender notes hereafter convertible into bonds at par, and the bonds reconvertible into legal-tender notes. One thing is clear—that under this arrangement *the bonds can never rise above par in the market.* No one would pay a premium for bonds, so long as he could get them at the Treasury at par. It would certainly keep the price of bonds always down to the value of the legal-tender notes.

Whether it would add to the current value of the legal-tender note, or to its steadiness in value, is more doubtful. Whenever bonds have a tendency to rise, there will be a scramble to get legal-tender notes from the banks, and a rush to the Treasury to exchange them for bonds. Might not this, at some time, give rise to a premium on legal-tender notes over bank notes, and would not such a premium lead to disaster? When, on the other hand, bonds show a tendency to fall in price under any temporary scarcity of money or alarm, the opposite process of rushing the bonds into the Treasury, to exchange them for notes will rapidly go on. If the ability of the Treasury to redeem all the bonds presented should fail for want of a sufficient reserve of legal-tender notes, the Treasury would simply stop payment on such demands. This, in the present condition of the public revenues, is quite possible; for the estimates of the Treasury show the probability of little surplus income this year, and of none next year. It is true the Committee propose a reserve of fifty millions of legal-tender-notes, to be kept in the Treasury for this special purpose. But how is this reserve to be obtained? There is no surplus income out of which to save it; it must be borrowed by a fresh loan, or be manufactured by a new issue of notes. If might be obtained by selling the coin now in the Treasury; but in the first place, the taking in of fifty millions of legal-tender notes, to be held in the Treasury out of use, would create great disturbance in the money market, and the Treasury cannot afford to add to the disturbed feeling already existing; and secondly, gold in the Treasury is of more value in upholding the credit of the government, and keeping steady the price of its bonds and the value of the legal-tender notes, than it can be if put to any other use. I cannot think there are any advantages in this mutual convertibility of bonds and notes to compensate for the inconvenience both to the Treasury and the public, which might arise from it. The proposition amounts to this: that after taking the trouble to fund the debt into long bonds so as to put off payment of the principal for some years, the Treasury then reverses and undoes this process by making the bonds payable on demand. I should fear embarrassment to the action of business and industry is, in my judgment, due, in a great degree, to the absence for nearly three years past of any clear, well-defined policy in the government finances. We have been left to drift, and are now drifting, I fear, close to some very sharp rocks. The duty of Congress in this matter can no longer with safety be postponed.

Very respectfully yours,
JOHN J. CISCO.

HON. E. D. MORGAN, U. S. Senate

NEW YORK CITY, March 13, 1867.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have received your letter of the 8th inst., and thank you for your appreciation of the suggestions in the published copy of a letter I wrote two months ago to the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate.

You ask me to give you my views more in detail about the five per cent. loan, interest payable in Europe, which is by some proposed. I comply with your request with pleasure.

I must correct your understanding of what I said in my published letter. I did not mean that a five per cent. loan was impracticable because, as you quote, the "Treasury continues to issue six per cents," but because, as our six per cents cannot be sold abroad at par, it is idle to suppose we could sell five per cents except at a ruinous discount. If a merchant has his promissory notes afloat, which cannot be discounted at bank at seven per cent. per annum, would he not be thought mad to issue a new quantity of notes and expect them to be discounted at five per cent.? We are paying about eight per cent. on 5-20s, at the present price of gold.

I look upon the exchange of five per cent. bonds for the 5-20s in Europe as impracticable, because,

1. I learn from the correspondence of bankers here, and from verbal reports from gentlemen who have been lately in Europe, that the bankers in London, Frankfort and Amsterdam, all say they would not exchange the bonds for a five per cent. loan; the difference is too great.

2. Because it is plain to me it would not be their interest to do so, as a few figures show. A 5-20 bond of $100,000 pays them now in gold every year, *here*, $6000. A bond of the new issue would pay them in gold, *in Europe*, $500. Difference, $100 a year. Against this they have nothing but the advantage of receiving their interest *there*. What is it worth? The coupons can be sent here for collection, and I or other bankers will collect the money and transmit it to Europe to their address for one-eighth of one per cent. *on the amount of the coupon.* Then there is the risk of transmission to this side, if the parties keep their bonds on the other side; this can be insured against at a very small cost, say one-quarter of one per cent. on the amount of the coupon. Permanent investors would probably leave their bonds or the coupons here, and so avoid the risk of transmission, or would put them into registered bonds, and have the gold collected here by bankers and remitted to them at a small cost. In any event, the cost to a man on the other side for sending his coupon here, *including the risk insured*, would not exceed one-half of one per cent. on the coupon; this makes a deduction of $5 from his $500 of interest, leaving him $497 clear on his $100 bond, paid net to him *in Europe*. I doubt not coupons can be sold for cash, to any bankers in Europe, at one per cent. deduction. So that, for a bond which now pays him, *at his own door*, $494 at least, you ask the European to accept one which shall pay him only $500. Would you, in private business, make such an exchange?

3. Our six per cent. 5-20s of 1862, which have *possibly* fifteen years yet to run, and our sixes of 1881, which have *positively* fifteen years to run, are both at about the same price, being evidently both looked upon as fifteen-year bonds. They are worth about 110 here, *in currency*, (equal to 82 in gold,) and in Europe 24, which, adding exchange, is 82, in gold. This is, therefore, the present value of a six per cent. United States bond having fifteen years to run. Now, when a six per cent. bond is worth 82, a five per cent. bond of same length is worth 72; so you can see from this how unprofitable to the European would be the exchange, if the bonds were of the same time to run. You propose to make them longer—how long, I do not know; but suppose you make them thirty years. Then we can estimate them by the price of the 10-40 bonds, which are five per cents, and are looked upon now as thirty-five-year bonds. They are worth 97½ in currency, equal to not quite 73 in gold; so that a thirty-five year five per cent. bond, interest payable here, is worth less than a 5-20 six per cents., its interest also payable here, by a very wide difference. A 5-20 bond of $10,000 is worth to-day $8,200 in gold; a five per cent bond, thirty-five years to run, is worth less than $7,300 in gold. In asking a European to change one for the other, you ask him to sacrifice full eleven per cent. of his present property. I have already shown how small is the gain to the bondholder of having his interest paid in Europe—far from enough to make up this wide difference.

4. We cannot afford to make the *experiment* you propose, with so little prospect of success; if we fail, we have thereby damaged our credit and lost precious time.

5. It is not a small consideration that, by offering to pay our interest anywhere except in our own country, we lose dignity, show a doubt of our own title to full credit, and thereby injure our standing and credit. There is no promised advantage to pay for this.

6. We cannot negotiate a five per cent. loan at par until our six per cent. loans sell at a high premium, and they are now very far from that.

The great remedy is to improve the *credit* of the Government; when that is again perfect, we can negotiate a five per cent. loan easily, probably at a premium.

The credit of the Government can never be good so long as its notes payable on demand pass at thirty per cent. less than gold, any more than my credit could be good if my notes were hawked about the street at thirty per cent. below their value as written on their face.

If the Government demand-notes were raised up to be of the same value as specie today, 5-20 bonds would be worth par in gold, probably much more. Then we should see our way clear to a long loan at five per cent.—perhaps at lower—interest. No measure is so economical as this of raising the credit of the Government paper; it underlies all other improvements in our finances. It can be done so easily that it seems to me madness to neglect it. The Treasury has now $90,000,000 of coin; $50,000,000 more would probably bring the legal tender notes up to par—for if a paying private corporation of a bank can keep its notes at par with a reserve of only one-third of coin, surely the Government can do the same, especially as its notes, unlike the bank notes, are a lawful tender everywhere for debts. No one, anywhere in this country, not even in California, would need gold to pay his debts, if the legal tender note were once made equal to gold by being redeemable in gold. The Government could thus be a specie paying Government, and yet gain the interest on two-thirds of the legal-tender notes in circulation; on the other third it would gain no interest, because the interest on the reserve of gold would count on the other side. Have you a doubt that if there were to-day $150,000,000 gold in the Treasury, PLEDGED against the $400,000,000 of legal-tender notes, these last could be *kept in circulation at par with gold* by simply *offering* to redeem them on demand? Even the public creditors would take greenbacks instead of gold for their interest, leaving the gold to accumulate still more in the Treasury to strengthen it. But we must first have gold enough in the Treasury before we make the attempt, for an abortive attempt would be ruin. Therefore I say, "Get specie payments come about *naturally*." Let it be known that this policy is adopted, and *the people* will decide when the time for specie payment has come. The difference between legal-tender notes and gold will become so small in the market as to show what specie payments are safe and proper. This policy has no risks; the contraction policy is full of danger to the country, and therefore to the credit of the Government.

Congress may profitably prolong its session, if it will devote itself seriously and earnestly to laying down a financial policy: it has been neglected too long. With wisdom, we should have been now in high credit, paying specie, without as much injury to business as contraction and financiering have already done. We have sold gold enough out of the Treasury, and let it slip to Europe, to enable us, if it were in the Treasury now, to keep all the legal-tender notes at par with gold, and to have our credit high and flourishing, instead of seeing our bonds sell, as now they do, at half the price of English bonds. The banks will feel no inconvenience under this policy, for they will still only have to pay in greenbacks, and greenbacks will be as plentiful as ever. It will be otherwise if the policy of contracting the greenbacks is to continue.

It is rashly assumed that these bonds, with interest payable in London or Frankfort, would not be so likely to come back here as are the 5-20s. It is a great mistake. A bond with its interest payable in London would be worth very little less for a New Yorker to hold than a bond with interest payable here. He could always draw, through any banker here, for the interest in the London agent's hands. Merchants having debts to pay in England would be glad to give him the cash for his draft. The bonds with sterling interest could be sold here just as well as any other bonds. None of the bonds will come back, if we take good care of our credit. Simply show, by adopting *into law* the policy I have indicated, or some fixed policy, not unwise, showing that we are on the right road, and know what we intend to do, and our bonds will at once rise in Europe, and go out of the bankers' vaults into the pockets of the people there. It is fear that keeps them from buying them more freely—fear of our future financial course—fear we may not pay. It is fear of our title to a now spreading disaster over this country. Let the people know that the greenbacks are *not* to be taken out of their pockets, but that, while left in their pockets, the notes are to be made to be *worth in quality* every day, and they would feel strong as now they feel doubtful and timorous.

What would you think of England trying to borrow money by making the interest on her bonds payable in New York? There are signs that, *if we are true to ourselves*, the financial position of this country is to be, in a few years, equal to that of England.

I do not think there is *any time to spare* in Congress laying down by law a fixed financial policy. We have already wasted time and lost good opportunities; we may, by even a few months' delay, miss a chance of getting upon the right road smoothly, which may never offer again. It is a question of *pressing* importance.

In my judgement, Congress should not adjourn without acting *definitely* and *comprehensively* upon this question, of such vital importance to the industry and happiness of our people.

I am very truly yours,
JOHN J. CISCO,

HON. W. B. ALLISON,
House of Representatives,
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The Daily Commercial

1868.

THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL.

DAILY AND WEEKLY.

A Paper for the Business Community and Household.

Presidential Year.

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Lessons from an Old Merchant.

That veteran and honorable merchant, Jonathan Sturges of New York, at the dinner given in his honor on the occasion of his retirement from active business, gave the following golden counsel to young men:

Now, gentlemen, since there is nothing that I can talk about that you do not understand a great deal better than I do, I propose to say a few words for the benefit of the young men present, and if you approve of what is said, let it be considered as said by this Grand Jury of Merchants now assembled.

One of the first lessons I received was in 1813, when I was eleven years of age. My grandfather had collected a fine flock of merino sheep, which were carefully cherished during the war of 1812-15. I was a shepherd boy, and my business was to watch the sheep in the fields. A boy, who was more fond of his books than of sheep, was sent with me, but left the work to me, while he lay in the shade and read his books. I finally complained of this to the old gentleman. He heard me very kindly, but patient smile as he replied: "Never you mind; if you watch the sheep, you will have the sheep." I thought to myself, what does the old gentleman mean? I don't expect to have any sheep. My aspirations were quite humble in those days, and a first-rate merino buck was worth one thousand dollars. I could not make out exactly what he meant, but I had great confidence in him, as he was a judge, and had been to Congress in Washington's time, so I concluded that it was all right, whatever he meant, and went out contentedly with the sheep. After I got to the field I could not get that idea out of my head. Finally I thought of my Sunday lesson; "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things." Then I understood it: Never you mind who else neglects his duty; be you faithful, and you will have your reward. I do not think it will take many trials as long as it did me to understand this proverb.

I received my second lesson soon after I came to this city, as a clerk to the late Lyman Reed. A merchant from Ohio, who knew me, came to purchase goods of Mr. Reed. He expressed his gratification at finding me there, and said to me: "You have got a good place. Make yourself so useful that they cannot do without you." I took his meaning quicker than I did the proverb about the sheep. Well, I worked upon these two ideas until Mr. Reed offered me an interest in his business.

The first morning after the copartnership was avowed, Mr. Joseph Colgate, the late merchant, called to see me, and said to me: 'You are all right now; I have one word of advice to give you: be careful who you walk the streets with.' That was lesson number three.

In this connection I must repeat an anecdote told of the late Robert Lennox. A country merchant came into the store of Mr. Morton, a highly respectable Scotch merchant, to purchase goods. He spoke about credit, references, &c. Mr. Morton said: 'I will give you what credit you wish.' 'Why,' said the merchant, 'I am an entire stranger to you.' Mr. Morton replied: 'Yes, I was at church with him.' 'Well, I will trust any man whom Robert Lennox will take to church with him.'

I hope these three lessons on watchfulness over the interests of their employers, watchfulness over their partners' interests and their own, after they are joined, followed by intense watchfulness that no black sheep creep into their folds, may be impressed by these anecdotes upon the minds of those for whom they are intended.

One other lesson I feel it very necessary to inculcate—that of patience.

With a little judicious most young men will find a position as high as they have fitted themselves to fill.

In all the changes which have taken place in my firm since 1802, no partner has been brought in who has not served as a clerk in the establishment. And I now have my house well organized, prosperous and free from complications, still in the hands of those who have served in the ranks for a longer or shorter period. I mention this as an encouragement to young men to persevere in the faithful performance of their duties.

A Singular Character.

The fashionable London paper, the *Morning Post*, treats its readers to a curious obituary notice of one whom it describes as holding a foremost position among the "riding families" of the country. It is not this time of the ruling classes or the dandy classes that the *Post* is treating, but of an old set of human beings, springing from the poorest circles and yet admitted to a sort of friendship with the most exclusive. The departed hero is one Alfred Day. The first thing recorded of him is that when the "height of a stable bucket" he was brought out, before he was quite eleven years of age, "to ride Shocking Mamma for Mr. Osbaldiston in the Cesarewitch of 1841, in which, as might be expected, he was nowhere." Reared from such a stock, riding came to him as naturally as fighting to a game rooster, and, possessed of a frame which peculiarly fitted him for it, he took to a horse like a duck to water. It is mentioned as a proof how he profited by experience, that he won the Goodwood Stakes before he completed his fourteenth year. Three years afterwards he saw him in every print-seller's in the country, "with his saddle in his hand." Going on from conquering to conquer, he became famous at Ascot, Newmarket, Doncaster, and wherever else the "world" held their festivals. He was in short quite as much entitled to be called a heavenborn jockey as William Pitt a minister. It is satisfactory and at the same time surprising to learn that "his language testified to the excellence of his education and the good use he made of it." He was a universal favorite with all the noblemen of the stable, "because he never took a liberty with them and never forgot his proper position," a virtue very rare in the class, and no wonder considering the familiarity encouraged on the other side. With hounds he was as good as with racehorses, and he was one of the very few jockeys who knew what hunting really meant. He like wise was a capital shot, especially at pigeons. On one occasion he killed no less than ninety-four birds out of one hundred. To his porper neighbors his conduct was marked by kind and agreeable acts, and the biographer is pleased to add, "he was sensible of his approaching end and appreciated to the fullest extent the kind attentions paid to him by those who attended on him." As of the clergyman who attended on Jack Lawrence in England, it is an illustration of modern taste in England, it may be mentioned that the memoir of this celebrated jockey occupies as much space in the columns of the *Morning Post* as would a similar notice of a premier, and a great deal more than would be given to a bishop.

Sir M. Peto's Bankruptcy.

(From the London Times, 19th ult.)

The case of Peto, Betts & Co. came before Mr. Commissioner Holroyd, yesterday, on an adjourned sitting, for last examination and order of discharge. Mr. Maynard, for the assignee, said the accounts were now ready, and they were of that character that an adjournment was necessary for their examination. Mr. Linklater, for the London, Chatham and Dover Railway Company, said he had tendered, in the first instance, a claim for £6,000,000 on behalf of his clients. Upon the choice of assignees it was felt that perhaps it would be as well to postpone the proof until the accounts were made out. Now that the figures had been completed, matters were much simplified, and the dispute between the bankrupts and the London, Chatham and Dover Railway Company was very much narrowed. His Honor thought it would be as well not to make any statements now as the case was about to be removed under an order of the Lord Chancellor to Mr. Commissioner Winslow's Court, and there must of necessity be a new assignee. Mr. Lawrence remarked that the accounts had been most carefully prepared, and the bankrupts still claimed £500,000 from the London, Chatham and Dover Railway. Mr. Kinklater: Surely we need not go into that now? Mr. Lawrence: You have had your £6,000,000, and you might allow me to have my £500,000. The accounts have been made up by Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, and Young, and Mr. Bishop has drawn up a long statement. His Honor then formally adjourned the case until March 10th, when proofs of debt can be made, and the assignee will be gone into. All the bankrupts were present, busily engaged in signing sheets upon which the very voluminous accounts were engrossed.

Power of the Imagination.

We learn from the Easton *Free Press* that a man named Roberts, living near New Germantown, in Huntingdon county, in this State, some months since, while driving a strange dog off his premises, was slightly bitten on the leg by the animal. He had heard that within nine days after being bitten by a rabid dog, hydrophobia would show itself, and believing that the canine by which he had been bitten was mad, his imagination at once suggested this disease as a result, and he awaited with fear and trembling the coming of the fatal day. The time arrived, and a neighbor visiting him about noon found him kicking about, foaming at the mouth, and going through the other ridiculous that mad men usually perform. As soon as Roberts saw the visitor he made for him, barking like a dog, while the other, frightened out of his wits, rushed out of the house, followed by the semblance of a madman. Over the fields and fences they went, the visitor straining every nerve, quickening his steps with the energy that his fear imparted to him, and Roberts jumping and raving and barking after the frightened man, until after a long chase they reached the village, both thoroughly tired and out of wind, and believing that Roberts must have some crazy freak in his noddle they surrounded him, threw him down and binding him securely in the fields and the